

Amendments to the Specification:

Please amend the specification as follows:

Page 1, last paragraph (lines 24-26), continuing on page 2 (lines 1-9)

However, in the case of special sheets such as postcards, other cards, etc. which are ~~different from ordinary sheet in material, larger in mass~~ stiffer and relatively smaller in size than an ordinary sheet, sheet supply rollers for supplying ordinary sheets do not have enough energy and cannot obtain sufficient conveying power for conveying sheets between the sheet supply rollers and aligning rollers, and the sheet may possibly be skewed on the sheet guide. Particularly, when aligning rollers for vertical conveyance are used in company with the downsizing of an image forming apparatus, the sheet skew tends to occur on the sheet guide while the special sheet supplied from a horizontal sheet supply tray is guided vertically in the direction of aligning rollers.

Page 2, last paragraph (lines 21-26)

However, the outside walls of the curved portion or the side guide plates provided with the ribs are to prevent the skew of standard-side sheet supplied from sheet supply cassettes and not for preventing skew when a special sheet of postcard, other cards, etc., which are ~~large in mass~~ stiffer and relatively small in size, are manually supplied.

Page 3, first full paragraph (lines 1-5)

Accordingly, a sheet feeder of an image forming apparatus capable of positively conveying special sheet of postcard, other cards, etc. which are ~~large in mass~~ stiffer and relatively small in size without ~~cause~~ causing skew using a manual sheet supply tray for ordinary sheet is demanded.

Page 5, second full paragraph (lines 11-23)

Manual feed sheet conveying section 11 shown in FIG. 2 conveys sheet P from a manual sheet supply unit 12 to an aligning roller 14 that is an aligning member through a sheet guide 13. Paper supply unit 12 has a manual sheet supply tray 15 on which sheet P in different sizes or materials are placed almost horizontally. On the bottom surface of manual

sheet supply tray 15, side guides 15a to prevent skew of sheet P by defining both sides of various kinds of sheet are attached in the state to be able to slide in the direction orthogonal to the sheet supply direction. Paper supplied from manual sheet supply tray 15 is not restricted to standard-size ordinary sheets such as, for example, A4, A3 sizes, etc. or special sheets such as postcards and other cards ~~in larger mass~~ stiffer than standard-size sheets.